

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 091559
ORIGIN EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON:MB
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
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-----230727Z 092099 /10

P 222322Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091559

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. BILL JACKSON HAS ASKED ABOUT MEMCONS ON HIS MEETINGS.
JENKS HAS TOLD HIM THAT EXCEPT FOR THE ONE CABLE REPORT,
OTHERS WILL COME BY POUCH.

2. SOVIET PROPOSED DESIGN PLAN ON STRELETSKAYA:
YOU WILL SOON BE RECEIVING A CABLE FROM FBO WHICH IS A
PARTIAL RESPONSE TO THE STRELETSKAYA DESIGN PLAN AND
ANSWERS SOME OF THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN MOSCOW 5420 WHICH
WAS RECEIVED AFTER THE FBO MESSAGE WAS DRAFTED. THE
CABLE IS KEYED TO THE FEBRUARY 18 KNOOP REPORT AND NOT
TO THE PROPOSED SOVIET DESIGN PLAN. WE THOUGHT THE
CABLE ABSOLUTELY SENSELESS AND REDRAFTED IT TO EXPLAIN
WHAT KAP SHOULD DO NEXT; FBO GOT ITS BACK UP WHEN WE
QUESTIONED ITS JUDGEMENT AND WAS UNWILLING TO CLEAR THE
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REVISED CABLE. WE GAVE UP TO AVOID FURTHER DELAY. WE
ARE CONCERNED THAT THE CABLE DOES NOT ADEQUATELY ADDRESS
THE FLOOR-LOAD QUESTIONS BECAUSE IT DOES NOT POINT OUT
CLEARLY THE APPARENT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE SOVIET
PROPOSAL AND OUR REQUIREMENTS, NOR DOES IT GIVE OUR
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PENTHOUSE FLOOR. IF YOU, TOO, FEEL

THE CABLE IS CONFUSING OR THAT YOU NEED MORE SUPPORT ON KIEV, DON'T HESITATE TO SAY SO BY RETURN CABLE AND FBO WILL GET THE MESSAGE. IF YOU CAN MAKE SENSE OUT OF THE INFORMATION IN THE CABLE, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO GO BACK TO THE SOVIETS WITH THESE PRELIMINARY RESPONSES INDICATING WE WILL PROVIDE RESPONSES ON ANY REMAINING ITEMS ONCE WE HAVE REVIEWED THE FLOOR PLANS, FACADE AND ROOF DRAWINGS WHICH HAVE JUST NOW BEEN RECEIVED IN THE DEPARTMENT.

3. JACK ARMITAGE CALLED IN SOVIET DCM VASEV APRIL 20 TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN ABOUT THE FAILURE OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY TO OBTAIN THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL BEFORE PURCHASING PROPERTY OR LEASING OFFICE SPACE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR JANUARY 7 NOTE. SOVIETS WERE TOLD AMTORG IS TO VACATE ONE OFFICE BY THE END OF MAY SINCE IT WAS LEASED AFTER OUR NOTE HAD BEEN DELIVERED. FULL REPORT FOLLOWS IN REGULAR CHANNELS.

4. WE ARE BEGINNING TO PREPARE BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR A POSSIBLE JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION MEETING IN EARLY JUNE, AND IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO GET A COMPLETE AND UP-TO-DATE ACCOUNT, THROUGH REGULAR CHANNELS, OF ALL THE BUSINESS FACILITATION PROBLEMS THAT OUR PEOPLE FACE IN MOSCOW THAT WOULD BE WORTH RAISING WITH THE SOVIETS AT THIS JOINT COMMISSION SESSION. SUCH AN ACCOUNT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL IN CONNECTION WITH THE BELGRADE CSCE MEETING.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE091559
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MGARRISON:MB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770141-1236
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770427/aaaaaxcp.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3afa16a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2717189
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL
TAGS: OGEN
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3afa16a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009